AMUSEMBNTS THIS EVEN ING. BROADWAY THEATRE Broadwo y-Busheren Beine

BOWERY THRATRE, BOWERY-FOX OF THE WILDER-MILLERS.

MIBLO'S GARDEN, Breadway—Sonambula—Munical

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street-Uppen Ta

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway-Two To Ons-METROPOLITAN THEATER, Broadway-THE LADY OF

AMERICAN MUSEUM-Afternoon-ADMIE-To OBLIGH WOOD'S VARIETIES-Mechanics' Hall, 472 Breadway.

BECKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 539 Breadway-Buck

New York, Friday, December 22, 1854.

The News.

We are still without later news from Europe The Washington is no - in her sixteenth day out, and the America is in her fourteenth day. We hall no doubt receive advices by one or the other

We publish to-day a long list of casualties at sea lockmately, so far as we are able to ascertain, mattended with loss of life. In several instances hese accidents have been caused by the vesse running on shore, and in one case—that of the packet ship St. Patrick, stranded at Barnegat there is but little hope of saving either the ship or the cargo, which consists principally of coal. The loss on both will amount to upwards of \$100,000, but is fully covered by insurance, divided equally be tween several offices in Wall street. Another vessel reported to be ashore at Moriches, L. I.; but up to a late hour yesterday evening we could learn nothing certain either with regard to the identity of the vessel or the circumstances attending the accident that has befallen her. The shipping interest has uffered heavily of late by these disasters. It is to be hoped that the coming year will be less pregnant with such heavy losses both of life and property.

In the Senate yesterday the special committee to levise a plan for adjudicating private claims against the government, reported a bill organizing a Court of Investigation, to which all such matters shall be referred. The merits of the subject were pretty thoroughly discussed, and the bill finally assed. Bills were introduced for the improve ments of lakes and barbors, and for completing the breakwater on Lake Champlain. Mr. Sumner offered a resolution, similar to that presented in the House by Mr. Clingman, directing inquiry as to the propriety of our government offering to mediate Surepe. The Committee on Commerce was directed to inquire what should be done in order to ensure armony between the pilotage laws of the several A petition favorable to the objects of the olutions—the rights and privileges of American Christians in foreign countries—was pre-sented. A joint resolution of the Georgia Legislaare, urging the estab ishment of a navy yard at mswick, in that State, was presented. rick is located on Turtle river, has attained to th lignity of a port of entry, and has a fine harbor Unfortunately, however, there are but thirteen feet of water on the bar, which fact tells greatly against the prospects of Brunswick becoming a naval sta-tion. The Senate agreed to adjourn to-day until

In the House yesteriny the Gibson correspondent dence was received and referred. Mr. Orr remarked that the diplomatic efforts of the government hav ing failed to effect an adjustment of this matter, he heped the Committee on Foreign Affairs would give in their carnest consideration, and report at an early day. The Juliciary Committee were directed to inquire as to the necessity of affording better pro tection to government officers in executing the laws. This movement probably has refe the anticipated troubles in Utah of Brigham Young's

the appointment introduces to regulate the ge in the Territories, for the con tion of public works in Wisconsis, and for the ere tion of public buildings in Baltimore. Resolution were presented directing inquiry as to the expe dictory of completing the breakwater, and erecting a custom house, &c., at Platteburg. Pablic build-lags are also wanted at Alexandria. Indeed, it seem that there is just at this time a widespread mania for public buildings in every part of the country. A bill allowing Georgetown to levy a tax for railroads, gas works and pure water, was passed. A bill reconstructing the judiciary system of the District of Columbia, was introduced, and

progressed to the final vote on its passage, pending which the House adjourned.

We observe two recent legal decisions on the liquor question which are interesting just at this time. An alderman of Allegany City, Pa., having imposed a fine upon several liquor dealers for viola-ting the Sanday law, an appeal was taken to the spreme Court, the main point of the defence being a right to a trial by jury. The court, with one exeption, decided that aldermen have jurisdiction rench cases, the violation of the license law belog by special act a criminal offence, and not a suit m law. Judges Todd, Hancock and Mor-Texas, have declared that the liquor law of place a very peculiar construction upon it. They re that the penalty for the violation of the provisions of the license attaches to him who grants it, and not to him who sells the liquor.

The bark Sarah Park, arrived yesterday from Havre, had fifteen deaths after leaving Havre, eleven of which occurred while lying at Sobthampton. The Oldenburg bark Rastede, from Bremen, had ten tha; the Bremen bark Norma, from Bremen. four, and the Bremen brig Johann, also from Bremen, three deaths; the packet ship Wm. Tapacott,

from Liverpool, had eight. An interesting article respecting the alleged conviets recently landed in our city from Antwerp is

The Mount Savage Iron Company has suspended operations in their rolling mills and furnaces.
Strikes of all sorfs are becoming the order of the day. The workmen on the Baltimore and Ohio

ad have resisted an attempt to extend the ours of a day's work. The B ooklyn city railroad anies have increased their rates of fare. The les of excursion tickets on the railroad between city and Newark has recently been increased

A report of the meeting of working men in the Park yesterday is given elsewhere. Another meeting will be held at the same place this afternoon.

A very interesting letter from our Rio Janeiro correspondent is published elsewhere, in which the reader will find full particulars of an important contrast, entered into on the 2d of October last, be tween the Brazilian government and a native com-pacy, for the nav gation of the Amazon.

Common and good straight State brands of flour were again firmer, and closed at an alvance of

12to, per barrel. Wheat was scarcer and firm. Indien corn again advanced one cent per bushel, and ed at 98c. a 99c. Rye sold at \$1 43 a \$1 44 per ushel, for export. Among the sales of flour were eald to be 3 000 a 4,000 barrels for export. About 1,200 a 1,500 bales of cotton were sold. Owing to very light stock the market was firm, and closed at about je. advance. The high price of sern obecked abipments, while provisions were gring forward quite freely. About 1,000 bales of were taken for L verpool, and 4,000 bashels

The Secret Matory of the Pierce Cabinet and

We sublish to-day, in the despatch of one of our special correspon ents at Washing on another very curious, very remarkable an t highly instructive and suggestive chapter of the secret history of the Pierce Cabinet, and of the causes which have brought about the peculiar European diplomacy which has contribued so much to the dispara ement of our government abroad and the disgrace of this administration at home. We submit this chapter to the digestion of the tinkering administration politiciaus of both houses of Congress for their special benefit, and to our readers of all parties for their edification.

The Cabinet organ at Washington has been very industrious in its effort; to delude the country with the idea that the Cabinet is a unit -that Gen. Pierce is the President-that his ministers are his subordinates, who emulate each other in their generous rivalry of obeying his wishes, and reflecting his sentiments in all their acts; and that the domestic and, foreign policy of Gen. Pierce has been going on, and continues to go, like clockwork, in its harmony and regularity. The people have known better all the while; but the Cabinet disclosures which have been made through our columns, within the last few weeks, betray a condition of mutiny in the administration camp, and such bitter and contemptible intrigues, jealousies and prejudices among the leading members of the Cabinet and their Kitchen Cabinet and diplomatic affiliations, as cannot have failed to startle even John Cochrane and his confidential clique of Tammany

It now appears that Marcy has had a vast deal more trouble in managing Soulé and his diplomatic confréres than anybody could have magined. We have no doubt that those Madrid duels brought our premier at once to the de termination of superseding Soulé as quickly as possible. We have given something of the subsequent instructions sent out to Soulé, and have shown how he disregarded them in putting them into his breeches pocket. But one important fact we have omitted lately to include in the general account, which is essential to connect the historical thread of Soule's late diplomatic adventures. When, in pursuance of his first instructions, (violently construed, perhaps.) Soulé had given the Spanish Cabinet twelve hours time for an answer to his ultimatum, and when he had received his answer in a flat negative, there was an end, thus far, to the business. Fresh instructions were then sent out to recommence negotiations upon a more conciliatory footing, which, as we have said, Soulé pocketed. We have also shown, heretofore, that he was so indignant at this sudden change in the Cuban policy of the Secretary of State, that he was about to come home and expose him and his temporizing instructions to the whole country. But mark what follows.

Here comes in our connecting link in this business. Our readers will remember that several months ago it was announced by all the newspaper correspondents at Washington that the government had determined upon sending a special commission to Spain to assist Souls in his negotiations. The names of the gentlemen selected for this extraordinary duty were also very widely announced as Gov. Cobb, of Georgia, and ex-Vice President Dallas, of Pennsylvania. Now we can perceive that this commission was the work of Marcy, resulting from the sebellion of Soulé. Marcy doubtless expected and desired Soulé to throw up his office, upon information of the actual appointment of these assistant diplomats. But Mr. Pierce was not prepared for this violent outbreak with the importnous Frenchman. He is a mischief. He was allowed, therefore, to hear increased at least six hundred mullion at Madrid; and hearing of it, he made it casus belli with the administration.

And this is the explanation of the Ostend conference. This was the compromise agreed upon between Marcy, Pierce and Soulé. In lieu of Gen. Cobb and Mr. Dallas as his two assistants, our French Minister to Spain had the benefit of the wisdom and experience of Mesers. Buchanan and Mason; and, to avoid suspicion, they met him, not at Madrid, not at Paris, not at London, but hundreds of miles away, at the quiet but strongly fortified little city of Ostend, in Belgium. Meeting there, this confer ence could not excite any suspicions at Madrid that Cuba was at the bottom of it; and possibly but for the imprudent conduct of Dudley Mann, Sickles and Sanders, and Soulé himself, even Louis Napoleon might have continued ignorant to this day of the subject and the business of the convention.

We may probably hear something of the ultimatum of this conference with the news of the re-opening of the negotiations at Madrid, or with the intelligence of another flare-up between our French Minister and the Spanish Cabinet. At all events the link connecting the departure of Soulé from Madrid with the Ostend convention is now supplied. Marcy has been beaten in his own game, and Cushing and Jeff. Davis have headed him. But who expects Cuba from this administration? The idea is absurd. No wonder that the foreign diplomacy of the administration has everywhere resulted so disastrously to the President with such wranglings as those which have marked the jealous intrigues between the members of his Cabinet, his Kitchen Cabinet and diplomatic corps. Well, we must submittake the developements of the day as they come to pass, and wait for more.

The newspaper organs and scavengers of the Cabinet appear now to have dropped everything else in their personal and libellous abuse of the editors of this journal. They seem to labor under the mistaken idea that we are making war upon the administration. Not so; the administration is swamped, as in a morass, and is more a subject of pity and conmiseration than of hostility. It has been tried and condemned, and we wait with patience and pity the execution of the sentence of the American people. The new American party which its blunders, follies, imbecilities, and wretched spoils policy have called into the field, will surely do the work. The executive shambles at Washington, where the spoils are sold like butcher's meat, and the rats of the Kitchen Cabinet, will be thoroughly cleaned out. Short of this, the new revolution will be incomplete, and we are in favor of finishing the work. That is all. We pity the administration, but we cannot help it. We must all how to the wil of the sovereign people, Meantime it is our duty to advise them of the inside as well as the outside history of their servants at Washington And we must discharge our duty. That is all.

Manufacturers, rademen and corporations continue to curtail the re-tablishm ats by discharging Forkm a and employ s; and, in con-sequence, the supple of labor for ac eding the nand, wages fall steadily. To aid to the distress of those who are throan out of employment, fool and the other ecessaries of life have not fallen in price. Meat still commands 14 cen's per ; ound, butter 25 cents, potatoes from \$1 75 to \$3, according to quality; flour \$12 per barrel; and groceries the same prices as were paid when the inflation was at its height. If there has been any decline in the values of these art.cles it has not been felt by the masses. Fuel is more expensive than ever: the po rest kind of anthracite coal sells at \$7 50 per shore ton. Rents will obviously show a heavy fall next quarter-day: for the present people who pay still square accounts with their andlord on the basis of last year's price. Thus the poor are groaning under the double infliction of low wages and high prices at the

The question is constantly asked: when will flour, ren's and coal fall? Why should labor be the only commodity that the hard times eem to have depreciated?

These are pregnant queries, demanding for their solution careful thought and unbiassed attention: not difficult to answer to those who grapple with them unshackled by theory, but totally inexplicable to the class which seeks in political economy nothing beyond a confirmation of preconceived doctrines.

Prices are nothing more than equivalents. When it is said that the price of a barrel of flour s ten dollars, nothing more is meant than that that sum of money is equivalent to that quantity of flour. It is so, in consequence of the relative proportions then existing in the community beween the supply of and demand for flour, and the supply of and demand for dollars. If the quantity of flour in the market increases, without a corresponding increase in the quantity of dollars, the proportion is disturbed, the former equivalents cease to be true, and a barrel of lour becomes on'y equal to, or worth nine or eight dollars instead of ten. In like manner, f the quantity of dollars increases, and that of four does not, the proportion is disturbed, the old equivalents cease to be correct, and the barrel of flour becomes equal to or worth eleven or twelve dollars instead of ten. This is the whole secret of political economy: the true key to our late inflation and present suffer

For instance. In 1848, five years of moderate prosperity had enabled the country to recover from the depression of 1837-'43. Discoveries of gold in California, and subsequently in Australia, deluded mankind into the wildest visions of wealth. People actually fancied that this increase of specie was tantamount to an increase of riches, and credit expanded accordingly. In other words, dollars and representatives of dollars were manufactured by the hundreds of millions. Thus, the banks which in 1848 had liabilities, or "promises to pay," affoat to an amount of \$271,146,639, increase the same between 1848 and 1854 to \$443,200,113: thus adding over one hundred and seventy million of dollars in the shape of bank notes, credits, &c., to the stock already on hand. Again, in the same period, railroad companies ran in debt to an amount probably equal in the aggregate to two hundred million of dollars, repre sented by stocks and bonds. Other corpora tions and individual merchants put out obligations of various kinds to something like an equal amount, all of which the public confidently received as representatives of value. Altogether, between 1848 and 1854, it is likely that the stock of paper money of all kinds, from the one dol lar note of the West to the railroad bond or mining share manufactured in Wall street, was

dollars. This at once disturbed the proportion former ly existing between real estate, merchandise, and labor, on the one hand, sad dollars on the other. The supply of the former having remained comparatively stationary while that of the latter had doubled, prices rose in proportion. First real estate, then merchandise, then farm produce, then labor swelled in value.

People said it was an evidence of prosperity. 'Twas nothing, in fact, but an attempt to re-establish the equilibrium of values which the increased supply of paper money had

This went on till various causes bred distrust in the public mind, and one by one these paper dollars in the shape of bonds, notes, stocks, and other "securities," began to depreciate. The downward march was rapid. In a very few months, about one-fifth of the increase of the former six years was lost by depreciationstocks, bonds and notes having become valueless, and ceased to represent dollars at all. Then the banks became unsteady, and by curtailing their discounts, at one stroke struck out of existence a large proportion of that class of securities to which individual credit had given rise. The work still continues. Every day we note the annihilation of some large class of paper representatives of value, and the conse quent reduction of our stock of dollars. There yet remain, however, far more of them than a healthy state of trade would justify. Such are stocks and bonds of unprofitable enterprises, notes and deposits in unsound banks, promissory notes of insolvent traders, &c., &c. These still exist, still represent dollars, and conse quently retard the restoration of the proportion which formerly existed between money and commodities.

When these shall have followed the example of those already gone and been swept out of existence, then, but not till then, will prices generally fall. The decline has commenced, as it isually does, with labor, and has borne a certain proportion to the decline in the supply of paper money : the rest will follow when that sup-

ply falls to its former figure. In plain words, when three or four of the great railroads, about half the enterprising merchants who have sprung from obscurity into tame within the past few years, a fair proportion of the banks throughout the Union, and pineteen-twentieths of the speculative enterprises which have been set on foot since 1849, bave broken to pieces and miserably expired, the poor man will rent his lodging and buy his flour and his beef, and his butter, and his coal, at the old prices. There will be distress awful to contemplate involved in the process : but it is inevitable, and the sooner it comes the better. Dollars must be made scarce, worthless paper values-of every description-must be discred ited, and depreciated and altogether crushed out, so that business shall again rest on a sound basis. Then merchandise will fail, and the misery now in store for the country will begin to abate. But not ill then.

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THE BOROPEAN WAR-AMERICAN MEDIATION. -We call the attention of our readers, and escially of both houses of Congress, to the petition which they will find in this paper, from citizens of he city of New York, praying the friendly intervention of our government in behalf of the pacification of Europe. Accompanying this memor al we also give the appeal of the Russian government to our own in behalf of peace, in reference to our war with Great Britain of 1812. Numerous other examples might be cited of the friendly interposition of a neutral power as a mediator between two or more powers at war. The practice is not extraordinary. It is fully authorized in the general law of nations, (see Vattel on Mediation,) and fully established in its exercise from time

We trust that Mr. Clingman will call up his resolution in Congress upon the first opportua speech upon its merits. The discussion and ption of such a resolution by both Houses will make it incumbent on the President to act in the matter. Indeed, such a step on the part of Congress will of itself have a very great influence upon the European belligerents. The petition of our citizens is properly directed to the President; but that should not interfere except to facilitate the consideration of Mr. Clingnan's resolution. Let him try it.

FLAGG ON CONTRACTS—THE STATIONERY HUM Bue .- In another column will be found a second communication from that clever financier, Mr. John Straw, jun., in which he deals summarily with the facts and figures of Comptroller Flagg's report on the stationery contract. It will be seen from the items of stationery furnished to the Comptroller's own department, that he found it desirable to suspend the conditions of the contract, so far as the articles furnished to the lafter were concerned, although he brings the charge of a collusive evasion of it against the contractors and a number of persons connected with the city government. We have before pointed out the absurdity of its being expected that a contract for the supply of reams of paper and expensive account books at one cent each!" could have been honestly carried out, but we certainly did not expect to find, taking the statements of his report into consideration, that the Comptroller should have first sanctioned a departure from its terms by his own example and then quarrelled with others for following it. This is carrying the humbug a little too far. It won't do Mr. Flagg. You must try and make capital out of some less transparent materials.

SEBASTOPOL.-The military editor of the Courier proves to the satisfaction of everybody, in an argument of a column and a half. that the allies will take Sebastopol. Well, suppose they do. Did not Napoleon take Mos-

OPENING OF ALBANY STREET .- This question is to come up for final action in the Board of Councilmen this evening. We shall then see whether or not that street is to be opened "in spite of the Revolutionary ashes."

THE LATEST NEWS BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Non Arrival of the European Steamers.

HALIFAX, 21-11 P. M.
Nothing has yet been seen of the steamer America, not

ully due at this port. SANDT HOOR, Dec. 21—11 P. M. The steamship Washington, from Southampton, now in her sixteenth day, has not yet been signalled off this

We hear nothing of the Sarah Sands up to this time she is now in her fifteenth day from Liverpool.

Very Curious from Washington.
HE SOUABBLES IN THE CABINED - MARCY'S OPINION
OF SOUTH, SICKLES, CAUNDERS AND FORMEY-THE
PREMIER SUSPECTS DUDLEY MANN-WRITES TO MA EX-SINATOR WESTCOTT—BETRAYING MARCY'S SE-CRETS—CURIOUS DISCLOSURES—THE ORIGIN OF THE OSTEND CONVENTION—MASON'S OFINION OF SICKLES —MARCY'S LATEST DODGE, ETC. WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1854.

You have already been apprised, in a general way, o the discords, jealousies, intrigues, and mutual animosi-ties existing among the members, that is to say, the three leading and ambitious members, of the Cabinet— Marcy, Cushing and Jeff. Davis. The other four—Guth-rie, M'Clelland, Campbell and Dobbin—are the heads, for the time below of their the time being, of their respective departments—no-thing more, and they don't expect anything more. The thing more, and they don't expect anything more. The general policy of the administration, foreign and domestic, is in the hands of Marcy, Cushing, Dayle, Soulé, and the Kitchen Cabinet. Marcy despises Cushing; Cushing hates Marcy; Jeff. Davis distrusts the one and suspects the other; Soulé is the ally of Jeff. Davis; otherwise they are all intriguing against each other. Forney and the Kitchen Cabinet practically manage them all, with a little bullying here, and a little blarney there, as occasion may require. The President is the dupe of the whole set. He is more credulous than you would believe. They set. He is more credulous than you would believe. They will pretend to be his best friends. He believes them all though they are all plotting and counter-plotting to break him down, so as to rule the roost in the next Baltimore Convention. Like the poor fellow who fell among thieves—he will be left by these friends, mangled and

Marcy protests that he never had anything to do with Marcy protest that the specific process that he op-posed him from first to last, as he opposed the appoint-ments of Sickles and Sanders. But Forney prevailed ments of Sicales and Sanders. But Forney prevaled, and they were appointed. "Now," says Marcy, "you see the consequences. Sickles and Sanders have blown all the secrets of the Ostend Convention, and the State Department appears in the light of a secondary insti tution—Forney and his set of advisers being the real managers of our foreign affairs." It is also true that the old Premier suspects Dudley Mann, his assistant, as an ally of Forney, Soulé, Sickles, Sanders and Kossuth. The old chap has complained to Mason, at Paris, about it, and it is said has called upon Mason to inform him precisely of the position occupied by Mann in the doings of the Ostend Conference. When the affairs between this Cabinet and the Kitchen Cabinet come to a collapse, we shall have some precious developments.

Cushing, with the President, is as smooth and glossy as

satin, yet he is the most active of the Cabinet conspira-tors against him. Caleb can no more change his charac-ter than an Ethiopian can change his skin. He is using Gen. Pierce as he used Captain Tyler and Col. Polk. He affects to be a strong supporter of the administration; but he is an active partisan in the Buchanan and Slidell party. He and Slidell, and ex-Senator Westcott, of Florida, are as good friends as "thieves in a mill." known to be frequently closeted with Westcott They concoct hostilities to Marcy. Cushing They concect hostilities to Marcy. Cushing has something to say against every measure emanating from the State Department. He has allowed a good deal to leak out-about the private correspondence between Governor Marcy and Judge Mason, in regard to the Ostend conference. You know that two commissioners were proposed to be sent to Spain—Gov. Cobb of Georgia, and ex-Vice-President Dallas. Soulé highest at this, then the ministerial Continental conferkicked at this; then the ministerial Continental conference was offered as a compromise. Marcy wrote strong filibuster instructions. He exhorted Buchanan and Ma son to great secrecy. Mason writes back, on the 5th of September, to Gov. Marcy, saying that, after entrusting such a mission to such a man as Sickles, secreey was im-possible. Cushing says that Marcy's apparent hostility to Sickles is all pretence. Cushing gives curious particu-lars about a certain Miss W——, who is the political Egeria of old Gov. Numa Pompilius Marcy.

The present move of Marcy is to get Francis J. Grund sent over as Consul to Marseilles, as a sort of check upon Sickles, Sanders and Soulé. Forney appears to second the motion, but there is a strong undercurrent in the Kitchen Cabinet, and also in the Cabinet proper, against Grand, on account of his close attachment to Gen. Cass. old General shows some signs of returning life, and

Cushing and Jeff. Davis are opposed to any appoint ment in his favor. Upon this point even Guthriochime

These are among the passing development West End. Stranger than these will soon be dis UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Nos. 11, 12 and 13—Joseph Battin, patentee, and Samuel Battin, assignee, vs. James Taggert and others. Errors of the Circuit Court of the Eastern district of Pennsylvania. sylvania. Judge McLean delivered the opinion of the Court, reversing the judgment of the Circuit Court, with costs, and remanding the case with directions to award No. 20—Adam D. Stewart, plaintiff in error, vs. The

United States. This cause was argued by Mr. Cox for the plaintiff, and by Mr. Bibb for the defendant. No. 28-Victoire Shields et. al. appellants, vs. Rober R. Barrow. Appeal from Circuit Court of the Eastern district of Louisiana. The appellants in the cause hav-ing been called under the 19th rule, on motion of Mr.

Janin, the counsel for the appelles, and failing to appear, the case was dismissed with costs.

No. 29—Catharine Kinns, wife of Wm. Warrance, appellant, vs. Pierre Jorda, Jr., et. al. Appeal from the Circuit Court of the Eastern district of Louisiana. The appellant in the cause having been called under the 19th rule, on motion of Mr. Jania, counsel for the app pellees, and failing to appear, the cause was dismissed

with costs.

No. 31—Wm. Fontain, appellant, vs. Wm. Ravenel.

Argument by Mr. Gerard, for the appellee.

Later From Havana.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 19, 1854.

The steamship Black Warrior, from New York via wans the 15th inst., arrived at this port to-day. The news brought by her is unimportant. She left at Havana the British war schooner Swallow.

Postal Arrangements at the South

The Postmaster General refuses to allow the settleme of the difficulty with the South Carolina Railroad by bla from the Assistant Postmaster General directs that contracts be entered into for a wagon service from the 1st of January to the 30th of June next, to supply mails to offices now served by the railroad company. In compliance with this the great Southern mail, after the 1st proximo, will be carried from the terminus of the ngton and Manchester Railroad, via Columbia to Augusta, Georgia, daily, in a two horse wagon. The horse service will cost more than the railroad company's

From Philadelphia.

IMPORTANT LEGAL DECISION—SUNBURY RAILROAD EXCURSION—DEATH OF A SENATOR.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21 1854.

Justice Black, of the Supreme Court, gave his decision to-day in several cases originating in Alleghany county, where an Alderman had fined different tavern keepers where an Aleerman and nated the rest of the Sabbath. The defendants claimed the right of trial by jury, denying the jurisdiction of the Alderman. The decision, however, affirmed the judgment of the Alderman, and said such cases were not suits at common law, but criminal pro-ceedings, under a special act. All the other Judges agreed with the decision except Judge Lewis, who conagreed with the decision except Judge Lewis, who con-tended against the whole principle of summary convic-tion, as an invasion of the right of trial by jury.

The members of the City Councils of Philadelphia, with a large number of those who were invited to participate in the opening measures of the Sunbury Railroad, arrived here last night, most unexpectedly to our citizens, who had sent a committee to meet them at Buffalo; but ow-ing to some mistake in the arrangements, they passed through that city without stopping. The citizens here threw open their dwellings and gave the excursionists a most cordial welcome. They were received by Mayor King, who, in an elequent speech, profered them the hospitalities of the city, which was duly responded to by O. F. Corman, Esq. A public dinner was given them this afternoon at Brown's Hotel, and a grand reception ball comes off this evening at the Reed House. The party leave to-morrow for Pittsburg via Cleveland, and will leave Pittsburg on Sa-

turday morning for home.

Lavi Foulkrod, member of the State Senate from the Fourth district of this city, died at his residence in Frankfort this morning, aged about 33 years.

Death from the Effects of Ether.

ALBANT, Dec. 21, 1854. Weares, belonging to Scoharie county, was operated on in the hosp tal here to-day for a tumor in the neck. Ether was administance, when she fainted. Stimulants were then given so as to revive her, when more other was had recourse to. The operation as proceeded with, she was completely stupefied, and not long afterwards died. Dr. Marsh assisted by Dr. Ormsby and others, perform-

day last, but they contain nothing of importance.

The adjournment of the South Carolina Legislature The bill providing for a modification of the laws in re-lation to the introduction of free negroes into the State, after passing three readings in the Senate and two in the

House, was laid upon the table.

The Charleston Courier has received by the arrival of the schooner British Queen, dates from Nassau to the

Trial for Smuggling in Bosto

Bosron, Dec. 21, 1854. In the United States District Court this morning, the case of the United States, on information, against \$2,000 worth of jewelry and watches, alleged to have be smuggled into this port last summer, per the steamship Canada, by C. F. Hamel, of Canada, was commenced fence is, that the articles in question were in trusted to him for the purpose of repair, &c. The Dis trict Attorney, Mr. Hallett, for the government, and James Egan, Esq., for the defence.

Configurations.

DESTRUCTION OF A HOTEL AT MICHIGAN CITY. BUFFALO, Dec. 21, 1854.

The Lake House, at Michigan City, was destroyed by fire this morning. Loss, \$6,000—insurance, \$3,500. FIRES IN ROME AND IN DEERPIELD. Two modern buildings on the corner of Do

Washington streets, in Rome, one occupied as a stove store and the other as a meat market, were both destroyed by fire this morning. The amount of loss has The dwelling house of David Gray, in Deerfield, about

three miles from this city, was entirely consumed by fire last evening. Loss five thousand dollars. Strike on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21, 1854. The employes on the second section of the Baltim nd Ohio Railroad, struck to-day against an extension of the hours of daily work.

Fallure of a Produce House.

UTICA, Dec. 21, 1854. Messrs. Obadiah J. Owen & Co., of Remsen, county, extensive produce dealers, are reported as having made an assignment. Their liabilities are said to be

ery heavy. Ice in the Delaware River. NEWCASTLE, Dec. 21, 1864. The river is much obstructed by ice. The brig Coral

caded with coal for Boston, cut through the ice and lost her anchor and chain near Chester. The steamer M. Sandford, from New York, passed up at 11 o'clock this morning.

Movements of Steamships.

ARRIVAL OF THE STRAMSHIP AUGUSTA. SAVANNAH, Dec. 19, 1854.

The steamship Augusta, from New York, arrived here early this (Tuesday) morning. ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP SOUTHERNER.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 19, 1854. The United States mail steamship Southerner, Capt ven, arrived here this (Tuesday) morning. The Blue Ridge Railroad Grant.

COLUMBIA, (S. C.) Dec. 20, 1854. The bill granting two million of dollars in aid of th Blue Ridge Railroad, one million now, and one million guaranteed, was finally passed by the Legislature of this

Rallroad in Arkansas

The Memphis and Little Rock Railroad has been adopted by the Legislature of Arkansas, as a branch of the Care and Fulton road, by a majority of nine in Senate and sixteen in the House.

e of the W

Last night was the coldest yet experienced here this season. At half-past 9 P. M. the thermometer indicated 10 degrees below zero. The weather has moderated a little this merning by a fall of snow.

At St. Johnsbury, Vermont, yesterday morning, the thermometer was 36 degrees below zero, being the lowest point yet heard from.

till partially open.

Bosrov, Dec. 21, 1854.

The weather has considerably moderated, and saccommenced falling at 9 o'clock this morning. The thermometer this morning stood at 16 degrees to were, but there are now indications of the or noderating.

EASTPORT, Dec. 21—8 A. M.
The weather here continues clear and very cold. Bancon, Dec. 21—3 A. M
The thermometer here is 23 degrees below ser

The weather is moderating, and there are indication

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21, 1854.

It is milder this morning, and we have had a slight fall of snow, but it has now cleared off.

The weather here is variable. We had a fall of sne a short distance west of us this morning. The the memeter stands at 36 degrees above zero. Business dull.

Markets.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA STOCK BOARD.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21, 1884.

We have no alteration to report in the money marks to-day. Stocks are firm; Reading, 35%; Morris Canal 11%; Long Island Railroad, 41%; Pennsylvania Flves, 80%.

BALTIMORE CATTLE MARKET.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 21, 1864.

At the cattle market to-day 400 head of beef cattle were offered, and all were sold at prices ranging from \$3 25 to \$4 75 on the b56f. Extra brought \$5 25. Hogs were in brisk demand, packers buying freely. Sales were made at \$6 a \$6 25.

were in brisk demand, packers buying freely. Sales were made at \$6 a \$6 25.

New Obleans, Dec. 20, 1854.

The receipt of the Pacific's letters here had an unfavorable effect upon the cotton market. The sales to day amounted to 4,000 bales. We quote middling at \$6 Freights are stiffer.

New Obleans, Dec. 19, 1854.

The cotton market is without change. The sales to day were 5,000 bales. Mess pork is quoted at \$12 22% per bbl. Lard is selling at 9%c. per lb. Freights are firm. Sterling exchange is without alteration in rates.

CHABLESTON, Dec. 21, 1864.

In our cotton market prices are easier, but not quotably lower. The sales to-day were 2,100 bales, at price ranging from 6%c. a \$%c.

CHABLESTON, Dec. 20, 1854.

Our cotton market is easier, but not quotablyflower The bales to-day amounted to 1,400 bales.

ALBANY, Dec. 21, 1864.

4,000 bushels white Michigan wheat, at \$2 55; 3,50 do. red Upper Lake, at \$1 77. Oats—20,000 bushels Chicago sold at 47c.—weight taken from the canal four miles west of Schenectady.

FIREMAN, JAMES LOWERRE.—A meeting of the foremen and engineers of the Fire Department was held last evening, in the Stuyvesant Institute, to make arrangements for the celebration of the obsequies of James Lowerre, one of the members of Hose Company No. 7, who was killed by the falling of a wall during the recent fire in Broadway. A series of resolutions were passed, expressive of the high esteem in which the character of the deceased was held by all who knew him, and .conexpressive of the high esteem in which the character of the deceased was held by all who knew him, and condoling with his friends and relatives in the loss they sustain in his death. It was decided that the whole Fire Department should turn out in a body, in citizen's dress, at his funeral, bearing at their head the banner of the Department draped in black. The members will meet at the Chiel's office, No. 21 Elizabeth street, at 12 o'clock to-day, and will proceed to the former residence of the deceased, No. 57 Second street, from which the procession will start at 1 o'clock. The remains will be interred in Greenwood cemetery. It appears that there were but eight members in the hose company to which he belonged, and he was regarded as one of the most efficient. When taken from beneath the ruins, the hose pipe, which he held in his hand as the wall fell upon him, was found lying near him. He was a young man, at the time of his death being exactly 22 years 6 months and 21 days old. The American Rifles, of which he was also a member, will act as escort to the hearse.

FIRE IN THE FOURTH AYSINE—At about half-part two-o'clock yesterday morning a fire was discovered in the cellar of the premises 277 Fourth avenue, occupied by Mrs. Carlton. Officers Walder and Farrington, of the Eighteen ward, succeeded in extinguishing it before it had time to do any material damage. It is said the fire caught from a defect in the heater furnace in the cel lar. These furnaces heaters appear to be of dangerous construction. The Fire Marshal should invertigate these furnace apparatus in the fullest manner.

The Walthem.—The thermometer yesterday morning, at 5 A. M., stood at 18 deg., an abatement of cold secund

From the South.

From the South.

THE MAILS—FREE REGROES IN SOUTH CAROLINA, ETC.

COLUMNIA, (S. C.,) Dec. 21, 1854.

Supreming among landstants,—An Irish imm named ann Hagan, with two children, one of them named ann Hagan, with two children, one of them named ann Hagan, with two children, one of them named ann Hagan, with two children, one of them named ann and in the look of the manipus. The named has and left to look out for themselves. The named has the look of the l them taken to the Third ward station houself child use 50sh after entering. The tax mother were in a starving condition, attention had to be given them.

THE PRIMERLY CAME.—The Court of General yesterday deferred the passing of sentence of A. Peverelly, convicted for an attempt to five 147 Front street, in July last, until Satur week. Judge Beebe will render the judgme court Marine Affairs.

THE BALTIC SPOREN.—The packet ship County arrived yesterday, reports speaking the steamship on the 10th inst., at 2 P. M., in lat. 41 36, lon the sailed for Liverpool on the 9th, at noon.

Naval Intelligence The U.S. steamer Massachussetts remained at Rio

neiro on the 1st ult., repairing.

Personal Intelligence.
Hon. Thomas H. Benton will deliver a lecture this

Senator Atchison and General Whitfield (delegate to Congress from Kansas Territory) were in Indon the 9th inst., on their way to Washington.

town, Pa.

The Cincinnati Gazette of the 19th inst. mays:—Were informed, yesterday, that Mrs. Harrison was rathe better than she had been for the last week or two; but sh is still very feeble, and but little hope is entertained the recovery. Her son, Hon. J. Scott Harrison, arrive here on Saturday.

ARIVALS.

At the Metropolitan—Capt. Gardner and lady, U. S. A. Wales, St. Louis; C. Bacon, Conn.; J. B. Taylor, St. Lo. J. B. Corseas, West Point; W. Handers, Milwankie; W. Bacon and lady, Bosto; W. R. Mehader, Milwankie; W. Bacon and lady, Bosto; W. R. Mehader, and domin; P. C. S. Malion; III. Capt. S. Yealman, Y. H. Hoo, C. Eve Washington; H. N. Capt. S. Yealman, Y. H. Thompson, Kingst K. P. McKebben, Pittsburg, Fa.; S. B. Elliost, Washingt E. R. Johns and Tamily, Newburg; J. R. Estebhing, Etrasi; R. L. Thompson, Olio; Hon. J. C. Fairschild, Madit

At the Irving—Hon. C. A. Perkins, Constant of the Irving—Hon. C. A. Perkins, Constant of Entering Merical and Meri At Union Place Hotel—G. Hayward, N. Y.; Mr. and M. and lady, New Hampshire;

e steerage. Frem Liverpool, in ship Wm Tapscott—W H Jackson, Jac Jorn, Miss Mary Carr. From Rio Janeiro, in bark David Lapaley—Mr C Hopkins. iro, in bark David Lapsley-Mr C Hopkins.

f despatches. Malaga, in bark Gem of the Sea—Den Juan Galway. Caracoa, in bark Venus—Mrs De Moyer and family. Charleston, in the steamer Nashville—Miss Jalia B frs M E Morris and servant, the two Misses Berris, let, F J Shadie. Mercan, the two Misses Berris, let, F J Shadie. Mesteron, J V Lyon and ledy, tatock and infant, Miss C Kelly, Mr Gee Weithereil I. Mrs B Bademacher, Miss Jessie Petithone, D Buck, Mrs B P Stacey and son, S N Foot, Mrs Lecna P Sprayes, Jas Walsh, F H Sprayus, W F Brush, wither, A Manuing, W T Elder, A Wilcox, Jas Cahli, Mush, H Schroeder, M Silk, J Nicholas, A Hogg and la Hoffman, Jas Grogg, Mrs Small wood and child, J Wi, J B Nicholson, and 62 in the steerage. DEPARTURES.

Special Stock Sale.—Albert H. Nicolay will hold a special auction sale of stocks and bonds to morrow, (Saturday.) December 25; and, in consequence of Monday next being Christmas, a special sale will also take place on Tuesday following, the 26th inst. Securities to be sold on those days should therefore be sent to the office as early as possible.

Albert H. Nicolay, No. 4 Broad street.

Holiday Gifts.-Those wishing holiday gifts ray of hats, caps and ladies. furs, can be e's. Gent's fine collars in great variety. Irs in abundance. The prices to suit the WHITE, 212 Broadway, corner of Fulton at